

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for treating a vascular condition, the system comprising:

a hollow guidewire;

a core wire inserted through the hollow guidewire, the core wire including a tapered undulating section carried within the hollow guidewire and providing greater friction when the core wire translates in a first direction within the hollow guidewire than when the core wire translates in a second direction within the hollow guidewire; and

an embolic containment device coupled between a distal end of the hollow guidewire and a distal end of the core wire, ~~wherein the tapered undulating section of the core wire provides frictional control of the embolic containment device based on a direction of axial translation within the hollow guidewire.~~

Claim 2 (canceled):

Claim 3 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the tapered undulating section includes a plurality of undulations along an axial portion of the core wire, wherein an amplitude of each consecutive undulation varies with axial distance from a proximal end of the core wire.

Claim 4 (original): The system of claim 3 wherein the amplitude of each consecutive undulation increases linearly with distance from the proximal end of the core wire.

Claim 5 (original): The system of claim 3 wherein the amplitude of each consecutive undulation decreases linearly with distance from the proximal end of the core wire.

Claim 6 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the tapered undulating section provides greater friction when the core wire axially translates between a proximal

position and a distal position than when the core wire axially translates between the distal position and the proximal position.

Claim 7 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the tapered undulating section provides lesser friction when the core wire axially translates between a proximal position and a distal position than when the core wire axially translates between the distal position and the proximal position.

Claim 8 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the tapered undulating section of the core wire comprises a crimped set of bends formed in the core wire.

Claim 9 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the embolic containment device comprises an embolic filter.

Claim 10 (original): The system of claim 9 wherein the embolic filter includes a braided wire mesh, and wherein at least a portion of the braided wire mesh is coated with an elastomeric material.

Claim 11 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the embolic containment device is actuated to an expanded configuration when the core wire is translated proximally relative to the hollow guidewire.

Claim 12 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the embolic containment device is actuated to a contracted configuration when the core wire is translated distally relative to the hollow guidewire.

Claim 13 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the embolic containment device comprises an occluder.

Claim 14 (original): The system of claim 13 wherein the occluder blocks fluid flow through a body vessel when the occluder is actuated, the occluder being actuated by an axial translation of the core wire within the hollow guidewire.

Claim 15 (original): The system of claim 1 further comprising:
a coating disposed on at least a portion of the core wire, wherein the coating reduces friction between the coated portions of the core wire and an inner surface of the hollow guidewire.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of treating a vascular condition, the method comprising:

providing a core wire inserted through a hollow guidewire, the core wire including a tapered undulating section carried within the hollow guidewire;

providing an embolic containment device coupled between a distal end of the hollow guidewire and a distal end of the core wire;

axially translating the core wire in a first direction relative to the hollow guidewire to expand the embolic containment device; and

axially translating the core wire in a second direction relative to the hollow guidewire to contract the embolic containment device;

wherein the tapered undulating section provides a different amount of friction when the core wire translates in the first direction than when the core wire translates in the second direction

~~expanding the embolic containment device based on the axial translation in the first direction; and~~

~~controlling the axial translation in the first direction based on frictional resistance between the tapered undulating section and an internal surface of the hollow guidewire.~~

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16 further comprising:
capturing embolic material when the embolic containment device is expanded.

Claim 18 (canceled):

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein the embolic containment device includes one of an embolic filter and an occluder.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A guidewire-based embolic filter system comprising:

a hollow guidewire; [[and]]

a core wire slidably inserted through the hollow guidewire, the core wire including frictional control means disposed within the hollow guidewire for providing a different amount of friction ~~control of the expansion and contraction of an embolic filter~~ based on a translational direction of the core wire within the hollow guidewire; and
an embolic filter coupled between a distal end of the hollow guidewire and a distal end of the core wire.